

Paragraph beginning at page 51, line 31:

52 The values of the partial saturation thickness height (h) can then be employed in the equations employed to calculate the Flow Conductance Value for the absorbent composite system.

Paragraph beginning at page 52, line 12:

53 The permeability (K) of each layer in the core can be computed as follows: Each layer in the absorbent core is a combination of substantially non swelling fibers and superabsorbent particles, fibers or flakes.

Paragraph beginning at page 72, line 7:

54 Determine the interpolated time (Tau) to reach 60% of the equilibrium absorption capacity. This is done by calculating the capacity at 60% of the equilibrium value, then estimating the corresponding time to reach this capacity from the graph. The interpolated time to reach 60% capacity (by this procedure), is obtained by performing a linear interpolation with the data points that lay to either side of the estimated time.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows.

Cancel claims 8 and 38 without prejudice or disclaimer.

For each of the following claims, substitute the indicated claim for the corresponding, pending claim having the same claim number.

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1. (amended twice) An absorbent article, comprising:
 - a backsheet layer;
 - a substantially liquid permeable topsheet layer;
 - an absorbent composite structure sandwiched between said backsheet and topsheet layers, said absorbent composite including an absorbent core having a first, superabsorbent containing, fibrous primary layer region and at least a second, superabsorbent containing, fibrous primary layer region;
 - at least one of said first and second primary layer regions having a Liquid Wicking Value of at least about 38%; and
 - at least one of said first and second primary layer regions includes a plurality of sublayers; wherein